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include at least one of the following: an identity of a user, a time period, and a distance. Related apparatus and methods are also provided.--

In the claims:

Kindly amend claim 1 as follows:

? (Amended) A portable transaction device comprising:

transaction apparatus operative to participate in a monetary

transaction;

authorization apparatus operative to authorize the transaction apparatus to operate based on stored authorization parameters, the stored authorization parameters comprising at least one of the following:

an identity of a user;

a time period; and

a distance; and

control apparatus operative to store the stored authorization parameters based on user input,

and wherein the time period comprises a time period during which a user is authorized to use the portable transaction device.

Kindly amend claim 9 as follows:

9. (Amended) A portable transaction device according to claim 2 and wherein the authentication apparatus also comprises:

authorization identity receiving apparatus operative to receive a signal indicating that a new user is to be considered as an authentic authorization control user and to store an identity of the new authorization control user in the storage apparatus.



Kindly amend claim 11 as follows:

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11. (Amended) A portable transaction device according to claim 2 and wherein the storage control apparatus is operative to store an identity of at most one authentic authorization control user, and

the authentication apparatus also comprises:

authorization identity receiving apparatus operative to receive a signal indicating that a new user is to be considered as an authentic authorization control user and to store an identity of the new authorization control user in the storage apparatus.

Kindly cancel claim 12.

Kindly amend claim 26 as follows:

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26 (Amended) A method for use with a portable transaction device, the method comprising:

providing transaction apparatus operative to participate in a monetary transaction;

authorizing the transaction apparatus to operate based on stored authorization parameters, the stored authorization parameters comprising at least one of the following:

an identity of a user;

a time period; and

a distance; and

storing the stored authorization parameters based on user input, and wherein the time period comprises a time period during which a user is authorized to use the portable transaction device.

Kindly amend claim 27 as follows:

27. (Amended) A method for use with a portable element, the method comprising:

providing a portable element;

authorizing use of the portable element in accordance with at least one of the following authorization parameters:

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at least one defined period of time;
a defined distance from a specified location;
at least one defined type of transaction;
at least one type of transaction meeting a predefined

criterion; and

at least one authorized person authorized to use the portable

element.

Kindly add the following new claims:

--28.

A portable transaction device comprising:

transaction apparatus operative to participate in a monetary

transaction;

authorization apparatus operative to authorize the transaction apparatus to operate based on stored authorization parameters, the stored authorization parameters comprising at least one of the following:

an identity of a user;

a time period; and

a distance;

control apparatus operative to store the stored authorization parameters based on user input; and

proximity determination apparatus operative to determine a distance between the portable transaction device and a predetermined location,

wherein the distance comprises a maximum distance from the predetermined location at which the portable transaction device is authorized to be used.

29. A portable transaction device according to claim 28 and also comprising:

authentication apparatus comprising:

storage apparatus operative to store an identity of at least one authentic authorization control user; and

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user determination apparatus operative to determine whether a user of the portable transaction device is an authentic authorization control user, based, at least in part, on the identity of at least one authorization control user stored in the storage apparatus, and

wherein the control apparatus is operative to store the stored authorization parameters based on a determination by the authentication apparatus that the user is an authentic authorization control user.

- 30. A portable transaction device according to claim 29 and wherein the user determination apparatus domprises an input device operative to receive a user-identifying input.
- 31. A portable transaction device according to claim 30 and wherein the input device comprises a password input device operative to receive a supplied password.
- 32. A portable transaction device according to claim 31 and wherein the input device comprises a keypad.
- 33. A portable transaction device according to claim 32 and wherein the input device comprises a voice recognition input device.
- 34. A portable transaction device according to claim 33 and wherein the input device comprises a biometric input device.
- 35. A portable transaction device according to claim 34 and wherein the biometric input device comprises a fingerprint input device.
- 36. A portable transaction device according to claim 35 and wherein the authentication apparatus also comprises:

authorization identity receiving apparatus operative to receive a signal indicating that a new user is to be considered as an authentic authorization

dontrol user and to store an identity of the new authorization control user in the storage apparatus.

- 37. A portable transaction device according to claim 29 and wherein the storage control apparatus has a maximum storage capacity sufficient to store an identity of at most one authentic authorization control user.
- 38. A portable transaction device according to claim 29 and wherein the storage control apparatus is operative to store an identity of at most one authentic authorization control user, and

the authentication apparatus also comprises:

authorization identity receiving apparatus operative to receive a signal indicating that a new user is to be considered as an authentic authorization control user and to store an identity of the new authorization control user in the storage apparatus.

- 39. A portable transaction device according to claim 28 and wherein the identity of a user comprises an identity of a user who is authorized to use the portable transaction device.
- 40. A method for use with a portable transaction device, the method comprising:

providing transaction apparatus operative to participate in a monetary transaction;

authorizing the transaction apparatus to operate based on stored authorization parameters, the stored authorization parameters comprising at least one of the following:

an identity of a user;

a time period; and

a distance;

storing the stored authorization parameters based on user input; and

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determining a distance between the portable transaction device and a predetermined location,

wherein the distance comprises a maximum distance from the predetermined location at which the portable transaction device is authorized to be used.--